

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE THOMAS MUNLEY FOR HIS SERVICE TO LACKAWANNA COUNTY

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 1, 2022*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, today I honor Judge Thomas J. Munley who, after 16 years on the bench, recently retired from the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas. Judge Munley is beloved by his colleagues and community as a fair and skilled jurist who treats everyone with respect and dignity.

A native Northeastern Pennsylvanian, Judge Munley graduated from Jessup High School in 1964. He continued his studies at East Stroudsburg University, graduating in 1968 with a degree in education. Judge Munley returned to his hometown to teach at his alma mater from 1968 to 1969. In 1969, he was drafted to serve in the Army and was sent to Vietnam on an 11-month tour as an infantryman with the 11th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division. For his meritorious service in Vietnam, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

After returning home from military service in 1971, Judge Munley enrolled in law school at Loyola University Law School in New Orleans, Louisiana. He earned his JD and was admitted into the Pennsylvania Bar in 1974. From 1976 to 1979, he served as Assistant Public Defender in Lackawanna County. In 1979, Judge Munley founded his own law practice and was renowned as a fiercely competent defense attorney, a formidable opponent in the courtroom.

In 2005, after 25 years at his own practice, Judge Munley ran for the seat on the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas. He won the Democratic and Republican nominations in the May primary and easily prevailed in the November election. Judge Munley quickly earned the respect of his colleagues on the court, building on his acclaimed reputation as an attorney. The integrity and principle with which he conducted himself on the bench led his colleagues to elect him president-judge in 2011.

Inspired by his own time in the service and his experience as a veteran, Judge Munley has been a longtime, fierce advocate for veterans and their families. Since 2014, he has hosted the popular television program "Veterans Views" on NBC/WBRE-TV which aims to inform those who have served about the benefits and services to which they are entitled. He often receives a deluge of calls after the show from veterans seeking assistance, and he diligently calls them back. He is also a proud member of the American Legion and the VFW.

On January 1, 2022, Judge Munley retired to senior status as required by Pennsylvania's mandatory retirement age of 75. In his role of senior judge, he will serve in every county where the state Supreme Court grants him authority to hear matters. He also plans to continue his work on behalf of veterans and their families in his retirement.

I am honored to recognize the judicial career and lifetime of public service of Judge Thomas Munley. It is a privilege to call him a colleague in the legal profession, and I join with the entirety of Lackawanna County in

thanking him for his service to his country and his community. May he continue to find fulfillment and purpose in this new chapter of his life.

### CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS FOR JONES ACT VESSELS

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 1, 2022*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce legislation to allow operators of Jones Act-compliant passenger ferries to establish Capital Construction Funds. Only car ferries are currently eligible for this special, tax-exempt domestic shipbuilding program administered by the Maritime Administration (MARAD).

Federally regulated Capital Construction Funds allow operators of US-flagged vessels to legally forgo paying federal business taxes pertaining to such vessels, provided all that forgone tax payment is reinvested in constructing new US-flagged vessels in American shipyards.

Current law only allows operators of cargo and fishing vessels to establish Capital Construction Funds for such vessels. Car ferries are only eligible because they are treated as "cargo vessels" for the purposes of the program, not ferries. Under my bill, all ferries and similar vessels with 50-plus passenger capacity would be eligible to establish Capital Construction Funds.

Through my tenure in the Congress, I have worked to increase federal funding for expanded passenger ferry service. Regrettably, Congress has historically underfunded the Federal Highway Administration's formula program and the Federal Transit Administration's competitive grant program for ferries, ferry terminals, and related infrastructure. Privately operated passenger ferries remain ineligible under both U.S. Department of Transportation programs.

Both public and private operators are working to expand service in the San Francisco Bay Area. My legislation is intended to support proposed service expansion by private ferry operators in the Bay Area and nationwide, at no cost to American taxpayers. Many Bay Area ferry operators are also considering replacing their existing fleets with new renewable energy-powered ferries, like hydrogen fuel cells. Those ferries can and should be built in American shipyards by skilled workers.

Madam Speaker, I plan to make this legislation a priority in the forthcoming Coast Guard Authorization Act for fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

### EMILIA LINGAD

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 1, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emilia Lingad for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Emilia Lingad is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because her

determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Emilia Lingad is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emilia Lingad for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

### INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 1, 2022*

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this resolution supporting the designation of International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women on the twenty-fifth day of November.

According to the World Health Organization, 1 in 3 women and girls experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. This figure does not include sexual harassment, and reports show that less than 40 percent of women who experience violence report it or seek help. Around the world, women and girls are being denied access to education and are politically and economically oppressed. Economic and political marginalization leaves women and girls all the more vulnerable to experiencing violence. We cannot be silent in the face of such injustice and violence. I urge my colleagues to stand with me in the face of injustices.

As we enter Women's History Month, the United States and the international community have an obligation to lend support and assistance to those suffering from violence and oppression, both abroad and at home. There are many critical factors that contribute to violence against women. Of all the women murdered in the United States, about 63 percent were killed by an intimate partner. Acts of violence as a result of war—especially physical abuse, sexual assault, and trafficking—disproportionately affect women of color. It is estimated that up to half a million women were raped during the Rwandan 1994 genocide. Furthermore, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, close to 60,000 women were raped during the war in which violence against women was used as a strategic tool of ethnic cleansing. That should never happen again. We must stand with women worldwide—this is unacceptable.

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women is commemorated to share women stories and educate communities about the percentage of women who experience violence, who lack access to education afforded to men[?], and how they face political and economic marginalization. The United Nations General Assembly observes International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women each year. My resolution expresses support for the designation of

the twenty-fifth day of November as International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Congress should recognize this work and improve our efforts to address the challenges of women facing threats and violence.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women's designation on the twenty-fifth day of November to better support the millions of women affected by violence. I urge the House to support this resolution.

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HONORING ALLISON BOETTCHER

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 1, 2022*

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my guest for

the State of the Union address, Allison Boettcher.

President Joe Biden and House Democrats are building a better America. The American Rescue Plan put our economy back on track with historic job growth and the fastest recovery of any of the world's leading economies; and small business owners across the nation, like Allison, have persevered and survived with assistance from President Biden and Democrats.

Allison is the founder of Blue Mountain Coffee House, a small business in Florida's 21st Congressional District. Raised in Jamaica, Allison has been passionate about the Caribbean—the culture, the community, and the coffee. In January 2020, she committed to sharing that love with her neighbors in West Palm Beach, and her fresh roasted coffee from Jamaica's Blue Mountains has become a local staple.

Like so many small business owners across the country, Allison found herself struggling

when the COVID-19 pandemic hit and was able to withstand the economic fallout from the pandemic. With the help of the Paycheck Protection Program and Restaurant Revitalization Fund, crucial provisions in The American Rescue Plan, Allison's business stayed open and kept employees safe and on payroll.

For the people of West Palm Beach, Allison's Blue Mountain Coffee House is much more than a café, it is a place where people feel at home. Her tenacity and desire to serve the people of West Palm Beach is truly inspiring. I am grateful for her contributions and look forward to her continued success.